

RESOLUTION NUMBER 25-25

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF EUSTIS, FLORIDA URGING THE FLORIDA STATE LEGISLATURE TO ENACT LEGISLATION TO PROVIDE A PUBLIC RECORDS EXEMPTION FOR MUNICIPAL CLERKS AND EMPLOYEES WHO PERFORM MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS WORK OR HAVE ANY PART IN CODE ENFORCEMENT FUNCTIONS OF A CITY AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, many municipal staff who perform duties that include, or result in, investigations into complaints regarding election fraud, legal enforcement of hearings that could lead to a criminal prosecution or code enforcement actions are exposed to threats and other acts of violence; and

WHEREAS, municipal clerks often administer elections and some election workers have been targeted for threats and violence due to the nature of materials they are responsible for

WHEREAS, municipal clerks are often involved in legal enforcement proceedings in actions related to violations of codes and ordinances and, occasionally, these proceedings have led to retaliation and threats by defendants; and

WHEREAS, currently public records exemptions in Florida include those for local personnel who either investigate, enforce or otherwise provide a service that can result in contentious interactions when action is taken and municipal clerks and their staff fall within the need for a window for greater protection; and

WHEREAS, the Florida Association of City Clerks is very concerned for the safety and well-being of the municipal clerks and their staffs who serve the public on a daily basis and are, oftentimes, the first contact of citizens with cities; and

WHEREAS, the City of Eustis has complied with all requirements and procedures of Florida law in processing and adopting this Resolution.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the City Commission of the City of Eustis,

Lake County, Florida, as follows:

Resolution Number 25-25: Public Records Exemption

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(1). The City Commission of the City of Eustis of Eustis, Florida hereby adopts the recitals set forth in this Resolution (whereas clauses) as the legislative findings of the City Commission of the City of Eustis, Florida.

(2). The Commissioners of the City of Eustis, Florida, hereby urge and encourages the Florida State Legislature to enact legislation to provide a public records exemption for municipal clerks and employees who perform municipal elections work or have any part in code enforcement functions of a municipality.

(3). The Eustis City Clerk is hereby directed and authorized to send a certified copy of this Resolution to Governor Ron DeSantis, Senator Keith L. Truenow, Representative Nan Cobb, the Lake County League of Cities, and the Florida League of Cities (FLC).

(4). This Resolution shall take effect immediately upon its adoption.

DONE AND RESOLVED this 17th day of April, 2025 in regular session of the City Commission of the City of Eustis, Lake County, Florida.

**CITY COMMISSION OF THE
CITY OF EUSTIS, FLORIDA**

Willie L. Hawkins
Mayor/Commissioner

ATTEST:

Christine Halloran, City Clerk

CITY OF EUSTIS CERTIFICATION

**STATE OF FLORIDA
COUNTY OF LAKE**

The foregoing instrument was acknowledged before me, by means of physical presence, this 17th day of April, 2025, by Willie L. Hawkins, Mayor/Commissioner, and Christine Halloran, City Clerk, who are personally known to me.

Notary Public - State of Florida
My Commission Expires:
Notary Serial No:

CITY ATTORNEY'S OFFICE

This document is approved as to form and legal content for use and reliance of the City Commission of the City of Eustis, Florida.

City Attorney's Office

Date

CERTIFICATE OF POSTING

The foregoing Resolution Number 25-25 is hereby approved, and I certify that I published the same by posting one copy hereof at City Hall, one copy hereof at the Eustis Memorial Library, and one copy hereof at the Parks & Recreation Office, all within the corporate limits of the City of Eustis, Lake County, Florida.

Christine Halloran, City Clerk